

Stephanie Lang von Langen | Animal psychologist and dog trainer

I am a behavioural trainer and instructor for dog owners and handlers. I specialise in behavioural training for problem dogs, training and behavioural counselling for foreign dogs and instruction in man trailing.

In 2009 I founded the training centre 'Wunjo-Projekt' for animal-assisted therapy in Bad Tölz, which received its fifth intake group in June 2012. Here, owners and their dogs undergo theoretical and practical training in order to be able to provide supportive therapy in schools, care homes and psychiatric units.

I have been involved in the search and rescue dog team of the Munich Workers' Samaritan Federation since 2005, and advisor and consultant to the animal welfare society Tegernseer Tal e.V. for the animal shelter Rottach-Egern since 2011. In 2010 I launched the dog toy 'Das Spiely', and I am currently working jointly with a partner to develop pet supplies which are produced in sheltered workshops and sold under the brand name 'Treasinn'.

I grew up on the South coast of Kenya and in Nairobi until the age of eleven, and gained a degree in Animal Psychology (dogs and horses) at the Academy for Animal Naturopathy (ATN) in Zurich/Switzerland in 2003. I am currently living in Reichersbeuern (Upper Bavaria) and plan to take on a Catahoula bitch from September 2012 in addition to my mongrel 'Wunjo'. I have been closely involved with Louisiana Catahoula leopard dogs for several years, and took part in numerous Catahoula conventions in the Czech Republic and Germany in 2009, 2010 and 2011, partly as a trainer for scent work and character tests.

I have consolidated my behavioural studies with dogs through my regular work with strays in Andalusia/Spain for example, through public awareness raising and campaigning for medical care for street dogs in Turkey, through observation of beach dogs in Sri Lanka and desert dogs in Kenya's Tsavo National Park, through working with Catahoulas in Germany and the Czech Republic, and at the annual conference of the US National Association of Louisiana Catahoula Leopard Dogs (NALC) in Louisiana/USA.

I attend **professional development seminars** with leading academics and practitioners including the zoologist and writer Dr. Udo Gansloßer (University of Greifswald, author of the series of expert guides "Expertenwissen für Hundehalter..."), the veterinarian Sophie Strodbeck (veterinary advice website einzelfelle.de, co-author of "Kastration und Verhalten beim Hund" ("Neutering and Behaviour in Dogs"), Günther Bloch (proprietor of the Canid Behaviour Centre 'Hundefarm Eifel' since 1977 and author of "Der Wolf im Hundepelz" ("The Wolf in Dog's Clothing"), Thomas Baumann (author of textbooks including " ...damit wir uns verstehen. Die Erziehung des Familienhundes.", "Neue Wege der Polizeihundeausbildung" etc. and proprietor of Hundezentrum Baumann, Treuenbrietzen nr. Berlin), dog trainer Angelika Lanzerath (co-author of the textbook series "Die Hundeschule" and head of the Training department at Hundefarm-Eifel), and dog trainer Gerd Leder (Hundeschule Gerd Leder, Laupheim).